ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to an alloy comprising Sn, at least one of Ti and Zr and at least one of Nb and Ta as the major elements. The total percentage of the Nb and Ta in the alloy material is preferably from 8 to 20 atom% and the percentage of the Sn in the alloy material is preferably from 2 to 6 atom%. The alloy material is preferably Ni-free and has shape memory characteristics or superelasticity.